to different areas and different categories of consumers in a State is within the purview of the concerned State Government/State Power Utilities. The Government of India supplements the efforts of the State Government(s) by establishing power generation plants in the Central Sector through Central Public Sector Undertakings.

The steps taken/being taken to improve the power supply position in the country include augmentation of generating capacity by over 78,500 MW during the Eleventh Plan, development of Ultra Mega Power Projects of 4,000 MW capacity each, improving performance of existing power stations, renovation, modernization and life extension of old and inefficient generating units, harnessing surplus captive power into the grid, strengthening inter-State and inter-regional transmission capacity for optimum utilization of available power, promoting demand side management, energy efficiency and energy conservation measures and import of power from Bhutan.

**Payment of Special Duty Allowance and benefit by NHPC**

2903. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the special duty allowance and benefit to officers in National Hydro Power Corporation (NHPC) was given from 1st August, 1997 whereas the Teesta Hydro Electric Project, Ranjit Power Station and other North Eastern Projects workers have been given only from 1st March, 2002; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The Executives and Supervisors of NHPC posted at Loktak Project in Northeast Region having All India Transfer Liability were entitled and paid Special (Duty) Allowance *w.e.f.* 1.11.1983. Though the Special (Duty) Allowance was admissible only to employees having All India transfer Liability, Workmen in Loktak Project became entitled to the Special (Duty) Allowance as a part of a conciliation settlement *w.e.f.* 1.11.1983.

The SDA was further extended to Executives and Supervisors posted at Teesta-V and Rangit Projects located in Sikkim, to which the same dispensation as the Northeast Region became applicable *w.e.f.* 1.08.1997. Workmen at these Projects, not coming under the purview of the All India Transfer Liability, were not entitled to SDA.

NHPC introduced a Transfer Policy in respect of Workmen category *w.e.f.* July, 2000 bringing Workmen category also under the purview of All India Transfer Liability. Thereafter, NHPC management, on examination of admissibility of the Special (Duty) Allowance to Workmen category, introduced the same *w.e.f.* 1.03.2002.

**T & D losses of SEBs**

2904. SHRI RAHUL BAJAJ: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state how much of Transmission and Distribution (T & D) losses of the State Electricity Boards (SEBs) are for technical reasons and how much due to theft of power, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): Prior to year 2001-02, utilities used to monitor Transmission and Distribution (T&D) losses. Under that system, there was a tendency by utilities to book subsidized/

unmetered supply under distribution losses. T&D losses were being computed taking into account electricity bills issued to consumers as accrued income and not on actual collection basis. T&D losses for the year 2006-07 were 28.65% of the total energy available for sale. According to the guidelines issued by Central Electricity Authority (CEA) for reduction of T&D losses, the unavoidable technical loss in Indian conditions should be limited to about 10-15%. Concept of Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT&C) losses was introduced in 2001-02. AT&C loss captures not only technical losses, but also captures theft, pilferages and commercial losses due to poor metering and billing and non-realization of dues. The draft report on Performance of State Power Utilities for the years 2004-05 to 2006-07 prepared by the Power Finance Corporation indicates that the Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT&C) Loss of the State Power Utilities at the national level for 2005-06 and 2006-07 was 34.54% and 32.07% respectively of the total energy available for sale. State-wise details are enclosed as Statement.

***Statement***

*State-wise details of Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT&C) % Loss of the State Power Utilities*

| Region | State | 2005-06 | 2006-07 |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| | Bihar | 67.46 | N.A. |
| | Jharkhand | 52.91 | N.A. |
| | Orissa | | |
| | Central ESCO | 42.54 | 46.96 |
| **Eastern** | Northern ESCO | 41.31 | 32.52 |
| | Southern ESCO | 45.48 | 42.17 |
| | Western ESCO | 33.95 | 36.93 |
| | Sikkim | 64.37 | N.A. |
| | West Bengal | 26.59 | N.A. |
| | Arunachal Pradesh | 37.17 | 52.03 |
| | Assam | | |
| | Central Assam EDCL | 37.75 | N.A. |
| | Lower Assam EDCL | 28.25 | N.A. |
| | Upper Assam EDCL | 39.68 | N.A. |
| **North** | Manipur | 77.83 | 94.32 |
| **Eastern** | Meghalaya | 33.36 | 37.32 |
| | Mizoram | 17.17 | 44.97 |
| | Nagaland | 44.76 | 52.19 |
| | Tripura | 24.92 | N.A. |
| | Delhi | | |
| | BSES Rajdhani Power Ltd. | 41.25 | 32.93 |
| | BSES Yamuna Power Ltd. | 48.58 | 43.25 |
| | North Delhi Power Ltd. | 28.01 | 28.33 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Haryana | | |
| | Dakshin Haryana BVNL | 40.78 | 34.48 |
| | Uttar Haryana BVNL | 41.90 | 28.96 |
| **Northern** | Himachal Pradesh | 15.15 | 13.18 |
| | Jammu & Kashmir | 66.73 | 67.68 |
| | Punjab | 25.84 | 24.87 |
| | Rajasthan | | |
| | Ajmer VVNL | 47.54 | 42.61 |
| | Jodhpur VVNL | 47.04 | 37.21 |
| | Jaipur VVNL | 42.26 | 38.06 |
| | Uttar Pradesh | | |
| | Uttar Pradesh PCL | | |
| | Dakshin VVN | 55.60 | 50.21 |
| | Madhya VVN | 47.19 | 45.12 |
| **Northern** | Paschim VVN | 42.43 | 31.51 |
| | Poorvi VVN | 46.08 | N.A. |
| | Uttaranchal | 38.20 | 42.85 |
| | Andhra Pradesh | | |
| | AP Central PDCL | 18.82 | 18.24 |
| | AP Eastern PDCL | 12.68 | 12.46 |
| | AP Northern PDCL | 19.21 | 26.61 |
| | AP Southern PDCL | 16.51 | 17.20 |
| | Karnataka | | |
| | Karnataka Power TCL | | |
| **Southern** | Bangalore ESCOM | 35.75 | 31.36 |
| | Gulbarga ESCOM | 52.73 | 46.98 |
| | Hubli ESCOM | 40.38 | 33.84 |
| | Mangalore ESCOM | 20.80 | 12.65 |
| | CHESCOM | 46.03 | 40.58 |
| | Kerala | 25.95 | 25.02 |
| | Pondicherry | 16.06 | 16.54 |
| | Tamil Nadu | 20.53 | 20.10 |
| | Chhattisgarh | 37.84 | 36.12 |
| | Goa | 15.18 | 19.39 |
| | Gujarat | | |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Dakshin GVCL | 22.40 | 20.59 |
| | Madhya GVCL | 24.60 | 20.07 |
| | Paschim GVCL | 43.06 | 38.27 |
| **Western** | Uttar GVCL | 27.57 | 20.15 |
| | Madhya Pradesh | 50.36 | |
| | MP Madhya KVVCL | 43.20 | 56.64 |
| | MP Paschim KVVCL | 46.91 | N.A. |
| | MP Poorvi KVVCL | 47.91 | 52.15 |
| | Maharashtra | 50.22 | |
| | Maharashtra State EDCL | 36.74 | 39.35 |
| | TOTAL | 34.54 | 32.07 |

(SOURCE: Draft Report of Power Finance Corporation on "Performance of State Power Utilities for the years 2004-05 to 2005-07")

N.A.- Not Available

**Electrification of villages**

2905. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has fixed the target of electrify 1.25 lakh villages and 2.3 crore Below Poverty Line (BPL) households by the terminal year 2008-09 and whether an official assessment revealed that only 38,525 villages and 6.73 lakhs BPL households could be covered by the end of March, 2007;

(b) what have been the major reasons for such huge gaps in targets and achievements in this regard; and

(c) what steps Government is taking to speed up the process of implementation so that the targets can be achieved within the stipulated time-frame?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government under its ambitious programme of Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) as part of Bharat Nirman has envisaged electrification of about 1.25 lakh villages as well as providing electricity connection to 2.3 crore Below Poverty Line (BPL) households in the country by 2009. By the end of March, 2007, electrification of 38,525 unelectrified villages and intensive electrification of 11,877 already electrified villages have been completed. 7,31,527 rural households including 6,72,588 BPL households were provided electricity connections by March, 2007.

(b) The following issues have affected smooth implementation of the programme:—

(i) Delay in receipt of Detailed Project Reports (DPRs).

(ii) Delay in forest clearance.